

## **CLAIMS**

1. A collect callback system, comprising:  
a call-in service configured to establish a communication link with a call source, the call-in service further configured to initiate a collect callback option for the call source; and  
a switch configured to receive callback data from the call-in service, the switch further configured to establish a collect call via a second communication link between the call source and the call-in service.
2. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, wherein the switch is further configured to route the collect call via the second communication link through the switch.
3. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, wherein the switch is further configured to notify the call-in service that the collect call for the call source is authorized such that the call-in service can discontinue the communication link with the call source and such that the switch can establish the collect call via the second communication link.
4. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, wherein the switch is further configured to query a Line Information Database to verify that the call source can be billed for the collect call.

5. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a database configured to maintain a call-in service identifier and an associated access code that each correspond to the call-in service, and wherein the switch is further configured to:

receive the callback data which includes the call-in service identifier and a call source identifier;

obtain the access code associated with the call-in service identifier from the database; and

utilize the call source identifier and the access code to establish the collect call via the second communication link between the call source and the call-in service.

6. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a database configured to maintain call source data that corresponds to the call source, and wherein the switch is further configured to obtain the call source data from the database and authorize the collect call for the call source.

7. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a database configured to:

maintain call source data that corresponds to the call source, the call source data including call limits for the call source;

maintain call limit standards that identify at least one of a day limit, a week limit, and a month limit; and

wherein the switch is further configured to obtain the call source data from the database and authorize the collect call for the call source if the call limits for the call source do not exceed the call limit standards.

8. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a database configured to maintain an archive of recorded data associated with the collect call between the call source and the call-in service, the recorded data including a recorded name of the call source and a recording of the collect call;

wherein the switch is further configured to:

communicate an instruction to the call source to verbalize a name to generate the recorded name of the call source; and

transfer at least a portion of the collect call to the database to generate the recording of the collect call.

9. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a database configured to maintain an archive of recorded data associated with the collect call between the call source and the call-in service, the recorded data including at least one of a call source identifier, a date of the collect call, a time of the collect call, a duration of the collect call, call source touchtone inputs, a recorded name of the call source, and a recording of the collect call;

wherein the switch is further configured to:

communicate an instruction to the call source to verbalize a name to generate the recorded name of the call source; and

transfer at least a portion of the collect call to the database to generate the recording of the collect call.

10. A collect callback system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a database configured to:

maintain call source data that corresponds to the call source, the call source data including call limits for the call source;

maintain call limit standards that identify at least one of a day limit, a week limit, and a month limit;

maintain an archive of recorded data associated with the collect call between the call source and the call-in service, the recorded data including a recorded name of the call source and a recording of the collect call;

wherein the switch is further configured to:

query a Line Information Database to verify that the call source can be billed for the collect call;

obtain the call source data from the database and authorize the collect call for the call source if the call limits for the call source do not exceed the call limit standards;

communicate an instruction to the call source to verbalize a name to generate the recorded name of the call source; and

transfer at least a portion of the collect call to the database to generate the recording of the collect call.

**11.** A telecommunications system comprising the collect callback system as recited in claim 1.

**12.** A collect callback system, comprising:

a switch configured to receive callback data from a call-in service that has initiated a collect callback option for a call source with which the call-in service has an established communication link;

a database configured to maintain an archive of recorded data associated with a collect call between the call source and the call-in service, the recorded data including a recorded name of the call source and a recording of the collect call;

the switch further configured to:

communicate an instruction to the call source to verbalize a name to generate the recorded name of the call source;

establish the collect call via a second communication link between the call source and the call-in service; and

transfer at least a portion of the collect call to the database to generate the recording of the collect call.

**13.** A collect callback system as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch is further configured to route the collect call via the second communication link through the switch.

**14.** A collect callback system as recited in claim 12, wherein the database is further configured to maintain associated recorded data that includes at least one of a call source identifier, a date of the collect call, a time of the collect call, a duration of the collect call, and call source touchtone inputs.

15. A collect callback system as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch is further configured to notify the call-in service that the collect call for the call source is authorized such that the call-in service can discontinue the established communication link with the call source and such that the switch can establish the collect call via the second communication link.

16. A collect callback system as recited in claim 12, wherein the switch is further configured to query a Line Information Database to verify that the call source can be billed for the collect call.

17. A collect callback system as recited in claim 12, wherein the database is further configured to maintain call source data that corresponds to the call source, and wherein the switch is further configured to obtain the call source data from the database and authorize the collect call for the call source.

**18.** A collect callback system as recited in claim 12, wherein the database is further configured to maintain a call-in service identifier and an associated access code that each correspond to the call-in service, and wherein the switch is further configured to:

receive the callback data which includes the call-in service identifier and a call source identifier;

obtain the access code associated with the call-in service identifier from the database; and

utilize the call source identifier and the access code to establish the collect call via the second communication link between the call source and the call-in service.

**19.** A collect callback system as recited in claim 12, wherein the database is further configured to:

maintain call source data that corresponds to the call source, the call source data including call limits for the call source;

maintain call limit standards that identify at least one of a day limit, a week limit, and a month limit; and

wherein the switch is further configured to obtain the call source data from the database and authorize the collect call for the call source if the call limits for the call source do not exceed the call limit standards.

**20.** A telecommunications system comprising the collect callback system as recited in claim 12.



**21.** A collect callback system comprising a call-in service configured to:  
establish a communication link with a call source that initiates communication with the call-in service;

initiate a collect callback option for the call source as a form of payment for a duration of a collect call;

receive an authorization input for collect call payment from the call source;

communicate callback data to a switch that initiates a collect call via a second communication link to the call source; and

receive the collect call for the call source via the second communication link that is routed through the switch.

**22.** A collect callback system comprising a switch configured to:

receive a call-in service identifier and a call source identifier from a call-in service that has initiated a collect callback option for a call source with which the call-in service has an established communication link;

utilize the call source identifier to initiate a collect call for the call source;

communicate an instruction to the call source to verbalize a name to generate a recorded name of the call source;

utilize the call-in service identifier to establish the collect call via a second communication link between the call source and the call-in service; and

generate a recording of at least a portion of the collect call.

23. A collect callback system comprising a billing entity configured to:  
receive a billing dispute from a caller that disputes charges for a collect call to a call-in service that initiated a collect callback option for the caller which authorized the collect call; and

communicatively link the caller to an archive of recorded data corresponding to the collect call to which the charges apply, the recorded data including a recording of at least a portion of the collect call and further including a recorded name of the caller verbalized by the caller.

24. A collect callback system, comprising:  
an automated service configured to (1) establish a communication link with a caller, (2) initiate a collect callback option for the caller as a form of payment for a duration of a collect call, and (3) receive an authorization input for the collect call from the caller;

a database configured to maintain an archive of recorded data associated with the collect call, the recorded data including a recorded name of the caller and a recording of at least a portion of the collect call;

a switch configured to (1) receive callback data from the automated service, (2) communicate an instruction to the caller to verbalize a name to generate the recorded name, (3) establish the collect call via a second communication link between the caller and the automated service, and (4) transfer the collect call to the database to generate the recording of the at least a portion of the collect call.

25. A collect callback system as recited in claim 24, wherein the switch is further configured to route the collect call via the second communication link through the switch.

26. A collect callback system as recited in claim 24, wherein the database is further configured to maintain associated recorded data that includes at least one of a caller identifier, a date of the collect call, a time of the collect call, a duration of the collect call, and caller touchtone inputs.

27. A collect callback system as recited in claim 24, wherein the switch is further configured to notify the automated service that the collect call for the caller is authorized such that the automated service can discontinue the communication link with the caller and such that the switch can establish the collect call via the second communication link.

28. A collect callback system as recited in claim 24, wherein the database is further configured to maintain caller data that corresponds to the caller, and wherein the switch is further configured to:

query a Line Information Database to verify that the caller can be billed for the collect call;

obtain the caller data from the database; and

authorize the collect call for the caller.

29. A collect callback system as recited in claim 24, wherein the database is further configured to maintain a service identifier and an associated access code that each correspond to the automated service, and wherein the switch is further configured to:

receive the callback data which includes the service identifier and a caller identifier;

obtain the access code associated with the service identifier from the database; and

utilize the caller identifier and the access code to establish the collect call via the second communication link between the caller and the automated service.

30. A collect callback system as recited in claim 24, wherein the database is further configured to:

maintain caller data that corresponds to the caller, the caller data including call limits for the caller;

maintain call limit standards that identify at least one of a day limit, a week limit, and a month limit; and

wherein the switch is further configured to obtain the caller data from the database and authorize the collect call for the caller if the call limits for the caller do not exceed the call limit standards.

31. A collect callback system as recited in claim 24, further comprising a billing entity configured to:

- bill the caller for the collect call;
- receive a billing dispute from the caller that disputes charges for the collect call to the automated service;
- communicatively link the caller to the archive of recorded data associated with the collect call to which the charges apply; and
- playback the recorded name of the caller and the recording of the collect call to the caller such that the charges for the collect call can be sustained.

32. A telecommunications system comprising the collect callback system as recited in claim 24.

33. A method for collect callback, comprising:

- receiving callback data from a call-in service that receives a collect callback selection from a call source to which the call-in service has initiated a collect callback option via a communication link;
- communicating an instruction to the call source to verbalize a name;
- recording the name of the call source;
- establishing a collect call via a second communication link between the call source and the call-in service; and
- recording at least a portion of the collect call.

34. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 33, further comprising maintaining recorded data that includes at least one of the recording of the call source name, the recording of the portion of the collect call, a call source identifier, a date of the collect call, a time of the collect call, a duration of the collect call, and call source touchtone inputs.

35. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 33, further comprising notifying the call-in service that the collect call for the call source is authorized such that the call-in service can discontinue the communication link with the call source to enable establishing the collect call via the second communication link.

36. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 33, further comprising querying a Line Information Database to verify that the call source can be billed for the collect call.

37. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 33, wherein receiving the callback data includes receiving a call source identifier and a call-in service identifier that corresponds to an associated access code for the call-in service.

**38.** A method for collect callback as recited in claim 33, further comprising:

obtaining call limits for the call source; and

authorizing the collect call for the call source if the call limits for the call source do not exceed call limit standards that identify at least one of a day limit, a week limit, and a month limit.

**39.** A method for collect callback as recited in claim 33, further comprising:

receiving a billing dispute from the call source that disputes charges for the collect call to the call-in service;

communicatively linking the call source to an archive of recorded data corresponding to the collect call to which the charges apply, the recorded data including the recording of the call source name and the recording of the portion of the collect call.

**40.** A method for collect callback as recited in claim 33, further comprising:

receiving a request from a billing entity for recorded data corresponding to the collect call, the recorded data including the recording of the call source name and the recording of the portion of the collect call; and

communicating the recorded data to the billing entity such that the billing entity can utilize the recorded data to sustain the charges for the collect call.

41. A method for collect callback, comprising:  
establishing a communication link with a call source that initiates communication;  
initiating a collect callback option for the call source;  
receiving a collect callback selection from the call source;  
communicating callback data to a switch that initiates a collect call via a communication link to the call source; and  
receiving the collect call for the call source via the communication link that is routed through the switch.

42. A method for collect callback, comprising:  
establishing a communication link between a caller and an automated service;  
initiating a collect callback option for the caller as a form of payment for a duration of a collect call to the automated service;  
receiving an authorization input for the collect call from the caller;  
maintaining an archive of recorded data associated with the collect call, the recorded data including a recorded name of the caller and a recording of at least a portion of the collect call;  
communicating an instruction to the caller to verbalize a name to generate the recorded name;  
establishing the collect call via a second communication link between the caller and the automated service; and  
recording the at least a portion of the collect call.



43. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 42, further comprising maintaining associated recorded data that includes at least one of a caller identifier, a date of the collect call, a time of the collect call, a duration of the collect call, and caller touchtone inputs.

44. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 42, further comprising notifying the automated service that the collect call for the caller is authorized such that the automated service can discontinue the communication link with the caller and such that the collect call via the second communication link can be established.

45. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 42, further comprising querying a Line Information Database to verify that the caller can be billed for the collect call.

46. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 42, further comprising:

maintaining caller data that corresponds to the caller, the caller data including call limits for the caller;

maintaining call limit standards that identify at least one of a day limit, a week limit, and a month limit; and

authorizing the collect call for the caller if the call limits for the caller do not exceed the call limit standards.

47. A method for collect callback as recited in claim 42, comprising:  
billing the caller for the collect call;  
receiving a billing dispute from the caller that disputes charges for the collect call to the automated service;  
communicatively linking the caller to the archive of recorded data associated with the collect call to which the charges apply; and  
playing back the recorded name of the caller and the recording of the portion of the collect call to the caller such that the charges for the collect call can be sustained.

48. One or more computer-readable media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a telecommunications switch to:

receive callback data from a service that receives a collect callback selection from a caller via a communication link;  
communicate an instruction to the caller to verbalize a name;  
record the name of the caller;  
establish a collect call via a second communication link between the caller and the service; and  
record at least a portion of the collect call.

49. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 48, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the telecommunications switch to notify the service that the collect call for the caller is authorized such that the service can discontinue the communication link with the caller and the telecommunications switch can establish the collect call via the second communication link.

50. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 48, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the telecommunications switch to query a Line Information Database to verify that the caller can be billed for the collect call.

51. One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 48, further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the telecommunications switch to:

obtain call limits for the caller; and

authorize the collect call for the caller if the call limits for the caller do not exceed call limit standards that identify at least one of a day limit, a week limit, and a month limit.

52. One or more computer-readable media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a telecommunications service to:

establish a communication link with a caller that initiates communication;

initiate a collect callback option for the caller;

receive a collect callback selection from the caller to authorize a collect call;

communicate callback data to a switch that initiates the collect call via a communication link to the caller; and

receive the collect call for the caller via the communication link that is routed through the switch.